Toronto metro
Your essential daily news | MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2015

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THE UBER EFFECT

ON-DEMAND SHARING ECONOMY SPREADS TO LAUNDRY, TAKEOUT

metroLIFE

Toronto metro

Your essential da... MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2015 High 14°C/Low 8°C Cloudy

ENRIQUE WORKS HIS FINGERS TO THE DRONE

metroGOSSIP

TORY TIES ONE ON

Mayor John Tory sports a bow tie to publicly recognize Bow Tie Fridays, a weekly show of support for Toronto's trans community. See metroNEWS. CONTRIBUTED

T.O. wants to tear down Gardiner

CRUNCH TIME FOR GARDINER

Polls reveal strong public support for the expressway's 'boulevard option'

Torontonians would strongly support a plan to tear down the east end of the Gardiner Expressway and replace it with a boulevard, rather than bear the cost of rebuilding it, according to a new poll.

The survey's authors targeted two competing plans being debated by city council for what to do with the aging, elevated, multi-lane stretch of roadway that cuts between the waterfront and the downtown.

Some 60 per cent of the 2,415 people surveyed would support the teardown of the 2.4-kilometre stretch of the Gardiner east of Jarvis Street, with an eye to replacing it with a street-level boulevard, according to the results released by Mainstreet Technologies. Some 45 per cent cited that as their preferred option.

"Toronto prefers the boulevard option. Six out of 10 supporting anything is an extremely high number," said president Quito Maggi.

The other option, which Mayor John Tory supports and is labelled the hybrid plan, is a partial removal and rebuilding project that would keep an elevated portion attached to the Don Valley Parkway.

That plan, being sold as the more car- or commuter-friendly option, received 54 per cent support; 33 per cent of respondents identified that approach as their preferred plan.

The hybrid plan could cost as much as $991 million, with the teardown estimated at about $461 million, according to a report prepared for city council last month.

Council is expected to make a decision at its June 9-10 meeting.

Maggi said the survey deliberately left the word "hybrid" out of the questions to avoid skewing the results, because the word suggests Tory's plan is a "compromise between options, and that is not what the hybrid option is."

> **This is an opportunity for us to create a grand boulevard that weaves together the waterfront with the rest of the city.** Jennifer Keesmaat, city's chief planner

The teardown received more support in downtown and North York, compared with Etobicoke and Scarborough residents, who showed a preference towards the plan to rebuild the deteriorating elevated highway.

Respondents were also asked to rate Tory's job performance. He scored a 63 per cent approval rating, with four out of 10 people in downtown and Scarborough "strongly" approving his performance.

The least favourable views were recorded in Etobicoke and North York, with 17 and 16 per cent respectively voicing "strong" disapproval, compared with 11 per cent in Scarborough and 7 per cent downtown.

A bit more than half of people polled, or 53 per cent, said they were satisfied with the work being done by council.

What to do with the occasionally crumbling expressway has been the subject of heated debate, with top city officials publicly lining up against the more costly Tory-endorsed "hybrid" plan.

In late May, Torstar News Service reported that Toronto's medical officer of health, Dr. David McKeown, had concluded in an environmental assessment — the same report containing the estimated costs of the two projects — that tearing down the Gardiner was the best option for the long-term health of the city.

A week earlier the city's chief planner, Jennifer Keesmaat, told an architecture conference that a plan supporting the construction of a broad avenue would be the right choice.

"This is an opportunity for us to create a grand boulevard that weaves together the waterfront with the rest of the city, and opens up new development parcels, allowing us to create complete communities within walking distance of the downtown core," Keesmaat said during her speech.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

PHOTO BY: RICK RADELL

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

Musicians learning the ropes of entrepreneurship. **Business**

Theatre inviting 1,200 on blind date

SOCIAL EXPERIMENT

Party planned with cast of Once after the second act

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

The Ed Mirvish Theatre is preparing for a theatrical show like no other.

All 1,200 people attending Wednesday's performance of the musical Once will be on blind dates set up by the theatre company.

It's what John Karastamatis, head of Mirvish's marketing department, calls a "social experiment." And, a big one at that.

"We think we have the most populous blind date on one night ever," he said.

The company emailed all of its regular theatre-goers, inviting those who are single to get matched up on a blind date.

Five thousand people signed up and filled out a short form stating their age, gender and sexual preference. Plus, the kicker: Their favourite theatre production from a list of seven.

On those grounds, a computer matched 600 diverse couples ranging in age from 18 to 78.

Each couple will get a ticket, their date's first name and be told if the person will be on their left or right. The couples will watch the first act and then have a 30-minute intermission to chat. After the second act, a party is planned with the show's cast.

Live theatre survives in the modern era because of interactions between performers and audiences — something that can't be replicated through a screen, said Karastamatis. He hopes that will carry over to the dates.

"There is something magical that happens when you put all these people into one room," he said. "What will happen, of course, we don't have a clue."

Ed Mirvish Theatre is sending 1,200 people on a blind date for a performance of Once, which is based on a couple's love born from a shared passion for music. COURTESY CYLLA VON TIEDEMANN

NEW JERSEY

GTA duo guilty of stock fraud

Two GTA men face the threat of five years in prison after pleading guilty in New Jersey to a massive stock manipulation scheme.

Michael Taxon, 52, of Toronto and Itamar Cohen, 52, of Thornhill each pleaded guilty in Newark last week to fraudulently inflating stock prices in a "pump-and-dump" scheme that targeted two publicly traded companies between April 2007 and June 2008, the FBI said.

They face sentencing on Sept. 2 and each could be hit with a five-year prison term.

The FBI said in a statement that they worked with undisclosed others to fraudulently drive up stock prices for Raven Gold Corporation and Kentucky USA Energy Inc. so that they could later sell them off at artificially high prices.

Their scheme also involved putting out glossy, bogus promotional materials to tout the stocks and trick others into buying them. "The promotional mailer was ... misleadingly titled, 'Stock Trend Report,' and claimed to be a July 2007 Special Edition for Premium Members," the FBI said.

The prices were driven from a low of $.61 per share to a high of $1.73.

The scheme generated $17.2 million, with $2.4 million each going to Taxon and Cohen.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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LGBT Canadians kept out of civil service for decades

HUMAN RIGHTS

March planned on Parliament Hill to demand public apology

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Between 1958 and 1992, hundreds, if not thousands, of gay and lesbian Canadians were fired from their jobs in the civil service, interrogated by government officials or spied on by the RCMP.

It's a dark chapter in Canadian history, says researcher Gary Kinsman, and one that successive federal governments have been content to keep in the closet.

"It's not part of the grand narrative of Canadian history," said Kinsman, who lives in Toronto and is co-author of The Canadian War on Queers. "Unlike the United States, where the campaigns against queer people in the military, for example, were very public, in Canada it was kept very secret."

While discrimination against gays and lesbians was common in the Canadian Forces during the Second World War, Kinsman said a similar regime grew to encompass the entire civil service during the Cold War.

"From 1958 onwards, LGBT people were identified as a major risk to national security," Kinsman said. "We were described as suffering from a character weakness that made us, and I'm being a bit sarcastic here, vulnerable to blackmail by evil Soviet agents."

According to Kinsman, the resulting "purges" forced numerous gay and lesbian Canadians back into the closet at best and, at worst, cut lives and careers short.

"It expelled us from the fabric of the nation," he said. "And it constructed heterosexuality as the normal, natural, safe and secure sexuality."

The purges continued throughout the 1980s, ending when the Supreme Court ruled the charter prohibited discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation in 1995. Now, 20 years later, the LGBT community is demanding an apology.

> **The current Canadian government goes around the world declaring its support for LGBT rights, but it hasn't come to terms with this campaign of discrimination at home.**
> Gary Kinsman

"This was official policy coming down from the highest levels of the state," he said. "It's way past time the Canadian government officially apologized for the injustices they committed."

Kinsman and his colleagues in the We Demand an Apology network will be marching Tuesday on Parliament Hill. Joining them will be victims of the purges as well as members of the federal NDP.

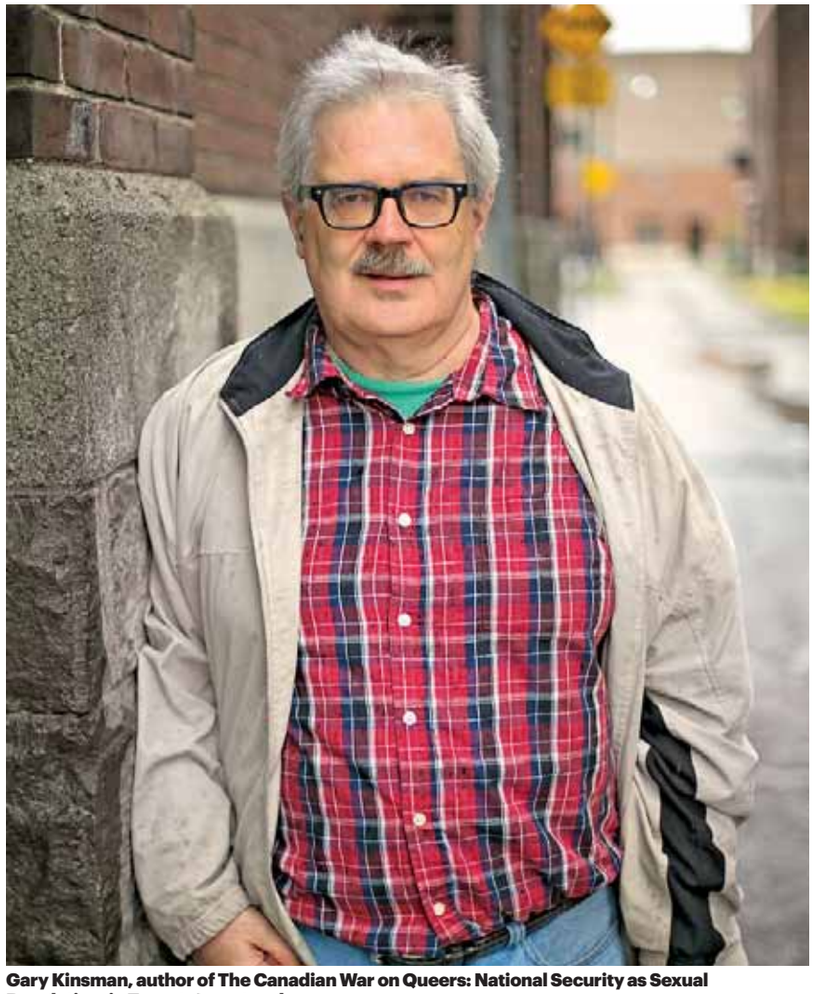
Craig Scott, MP for Toronto-Danforth, is one of three NDP MPs putting forth private members' bills asking the government to apologize for the purges.

Scott's motion would amend the military records of those kicked out of the Forces to ensure they were given honourable discharges.

However, Scott is doubtful the motion will be introduced before Parliament breaks ahead of the fall election. "It's really a signal of what the NDP would do if we form the next government," he said.

"For decades, we've been on the right side of history when it comes to issues like this."

Time to apologize: Rosemary Westwood, metroVIEWS



Gary Kinsman, author of The Canadian War on Queers: National Security as Sexual Regulation, in Toronto's east end. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

THE 'FRUIT MACHINE'

In the 1950s, the RCMP used a test it believed could identify homosexuals among its ranks. Participants were forced to sit in a chair and view pornography while their pupil dilation, heartbeat and perspiration were recorded.

The device was colloquially referred to as the "Fruit Machine" and resulted in a number of people losing their jobs. RCMP members and other civil servants were initially told the test was to measure stress. However, Gary Kinsman said few people volunteered for the exam once its true purpose was revealed.

Funding for the Fruit Machine was discontinued in the 1960s. The device itself is now part of the collection of the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa.

THE KEY PLAYERS

Gary Kinsman
A professor emeritus in sociology at Laurentian University, he's a leading researcher in the treatment of LGBT civil servants during the Cold War and a founder of the We Demand an Apology Network.

Jason Kenney

Jason Kenney
One of the private member's motions being introduced by the NDP calls on the National Defence minister to launch a formal investigation into the treatment of LGBT civil servants and military members during the Cold War. NDP MP Craig Scott has asked Kenney to launch the investigation himself. But, so far, nothing has been done.

Michelle Douglas
Dismissed from her Canadian Forces post in 1989 after being outed as a lesbian, she subsequently launched a $550,000 lawsuit against the Department of National Defence. The landmark case led to the Canadian military abandoning its discriminatory policies against homosexuals.

Michelle Douglas

Darl Wood says she was kicked out of the military for being a lesbian. CONTRIBUTED

Former soldier suffered PTSD

Darl Wood was three years into her military career in Halifax when she was called into her boss's office one morning.

As a lesbian working for the military police in the 1970s, it was a meeting she had feared and dreaded. Two officers from a special investigations unit took her into an interrogation room and repeatedly questioned her about her sexuality, asking her the same questions over and over again.

She said she only came to the conclusion years later that what happened amounted to sexual assault.

She said she was made to stay in the military for another three months while they processed her release. Then, in May 1978, she was kicked out.

The paperwork said she was dismissed for being "unadvantageously employable."

"That was their code for being discharged for being lesbian," she said. "To add insult to injury, it was requested that I type my own release form."

For years afterward, Wood suffered from post-traumatic stress, though she didn't realize it at the time. She had trouble keeping a steady job. Her intimate relationships were affected.

She has since become an activist and re-told her story many times, including to the Royal Commission on Equity in Employment in the mid-1980s. But doing so remains difficult.

"It's only in the last few years that I've been able to do any amount of healing," she said.

Wood will be among a delegation in Ottawa on Tuesday demanding an apology from the government.

"The military, the government, they did wrong," she said. "What they did was horrendous, and they should apologize." MICHAEL WOODS/METRO

‘My past doesn’t define me’

JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY

Peer program offers services for inmates after release

Lindsay Jennings, peer support worker at the John Howard Society of Toronto’s Reintegration Centre, poses for pictures at the open house in Etobicoke. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lindsay Jennings’ eyes light up when she talks about her peer support work at the John Howard Society of Toronto’s Reintegration Centre, a trailblazing Etobicoke facility that helps recently released former inmates return to society.

On a hot Thursday afternoon, Jennings is standing near the red-brick building for its open house. This is her “dream job,” the 33-year-old says with a broad smile. And it’s a role only someone like Jennings can do.

Looming across the road is the province’s superjail, the Toronto South Detention Centre, a massive complex of more than 767,000 square feet, with beds for more than 1,600 male inmates.

Since the nearby Reintegration Centre opened its doors last November, Jennings has helped more than 15 men after their release. She knows well the uncertainty they feel after walking out of the superjail’s front doors onto Horner Avenue. “You can’t appreciate someone’s story unless you’ve lived in their shoes,” she said.

About a decade ago, after being incarcerated at the Vanier Centre for Women, Jennings wound up on the street. She struggled with homelessness in Kitchener, often relying on soup kitchens for a decent meal, while struggling to find work with a criminal record.

She finally landed a job.

Then the seizures started. One day, following a seizure, she didn’t make it back to work.

Jennings soon learned she had a brain tumour requiring surgery. She lost about two years of her life to the illness. Her memories from those days are hazy.

“Sometimes you lose hope,” she recalled. But she didn’t give up. Instead, she went back to school, first in 2008 at Conestoga College in Kitchener, then for a social service worker program at Humber College in Toronto in 2011.

The job posting for her current role required “lived experience,” she said, something Jennings and her two peer-support colleagues have in spades.

Amber Kellen, the John Howard Society’s director of community initiatives, policy and research, calls their work with former inmates “incredibly powerful.”

It’s also a distinctive approach. The centre as a whole — deemed the first of its kind in North America — focuses on early intervention, with an array of housing, mental health and addiction services under one roof, just a few minutes down the road from the superjail.

> **There are very high rates of death caused by accidental overdose — 20 times the general population — within days of release.**
>
> Amber Kellen, JHS director of community initiatives

The peer-support workers help inmates immediately after their release, providing education on overdose prevention, connecting them with services, and accompanying them to their next destination, be it an Ontario Works office or a detox centre.

Once the jail is at capacity, more than 180 men will be released each week and up to 44 per cent of those will find themselves homeless, according to the society.

“There are very high rates of death caused by accidental overdose — 20 times the general population — within days of release,” Kellen added.

Those staggering figures are what makes the centre’s approach so vital, modeled on the hub concept used by the United Way, she explains.

On hand for Thursday’s open house and official ribbon-cutting, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Yasir Naqvi said the approach is one that could be employed elsewhere.

“This is the beauty of this model, because hubs can be reproduced different places,” he said. “We know there are a lot of community partners interested in providing services — and they do provide those services in communities around the province — but they are doing it from their different, disparate areas based on their niche.”

One of Jennings’ fellow peer-support workers, Harold Johnson, gave a tour of the centre, pointing out the doors leading to various social services, and a simple shelf in the main lobby filled with clothes and shoes. Former inmates leave incarceration with just a plastic bag of belongings and their “prison shoes,” Johnson noted.

Barry Corbitt, the centre’s third and newest peer-support worker, says their role is about rebuilding lives. “In order to pull this off, we need to have people who can readily identify with (former inmates),” said the 46-year-old, who was incarcerated in his late 30s and spent time living on the street.

“When someone comes out of incarceration from the South Detention Centre, first of all, they’re traumatized,” Corbitt said. “They’ve lost everything in their life and they just don’t know what to do, and they’re scrambling for some kind of position to go to for safety.”

All three support workers are hesitant to share details about these closed chapters of their lives, but they know their past experiences help them connect with newly freed men from across the road in a way no one else could.

“My past doesn’t define me,” said Jennings. “What defines me is the work I’m doing right now, and giving back.”

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

IN BRIEF

Police seek public’s help

Toronto Police are seeking the public’s help in a shooting investigation from May 29 in the Markham Road-Eglinton Avenue East area.

According to police, on Friday at 11 a.m. three men in a car were driving eastbound on Eglinton, approaching Markham. An unknown dark-coloured car pulled up beside them and a suspect began shooting towards the three men, said police. The car was shot at several times. Two of the three men were taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Black bear spotted

Police say there are reports of a bear roaming a community about 50 kilometres north of Toronto.

York Regional Police say they received a call about a black bear in a backyard in Newmarket on Sunday morning. A spokeswoman says officers responding to the call were unable to locate the animal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

75 people removed from subway train as sparks fly

Sparks flew early Sunday forcing the removal of about 75 people from a Toronto subway train stranded on a bridge over the Don River.

Firefighters responding to the Bloor Viaduct — about 30 metres from the Broadview station — just after midnight found two large cables burned through to the deck that the train’s rails sit upon. Crews determined the train could not continue and the passengers were led back to the Broadview station on foot by transit workers, police and firefighters. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Transgender supporters bringing the bow tie back

AWARENESS

Campaign reaching upper echelons of city government

Jessica Smith Cross
Metro | Toronto

Sometimes a bow tie is much more than just a bow tie.

When Mayor John Tory and Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders sported them last week, they were making their first public recognition of Bow Tie Fridays, a weekly show of support for the trans community.

Savoy Howe launched the campaign in December after getting to know transgender clients at her gym, the Toronto Newsgirls Boxing Club. One of them is Jack Jackson, a bow tie designer.

Bow ties are a great symbol for the awareness campaign because they're eye-catching.

"Every Friday I wear a bow tie, at least 10 people comment on it," Howe said. "That opens the door for the conversation."

So far, support has been overwhelming. Getting the upper echelons of city government involved is considered another huge step in the right direction — for the campaign, the trans community and Toronto as a whole.

Research has shown that, in Ontario, about 43 per cent of transgender youth have attempted suicide.

"When people hear that, any decent person, anyone with a heart wants to help," Jackson said.

Bow Tie Fridays are an easy way to do that, Jackson said.

With bow tie-wearing selfies becoming a bit of a fashion statement at the end of each week, people can feel supported and maintain their privacy if that's their preference.

"Sometimes people can feel so lost," Jackson said. "It means a lot to trans people, to anyone who is suffering, to know that there are people, really decent people, who just want to help and want to do something."

Mayor John Tory, left, and Toronto Police Chief Mark Saunders got classy last week by donning bow ties to show support for the trans community. CONTRIBUTED; FACEBOOK

Savoy Howe, left, and Jack Jackson are founders of Toronto's Bow Tie Fridays. Jackson's dog also gets in on the action. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

THE MOVEMENT

ALL FACEBOOK

SCARBOROUGH

Bellamy Road subway option under consideration, debate

There is a green mile on Bellamy Road in the leafy heart of Scarborough, stretching as far as the eye can see.

It's the first thing you notice looking south towards Lawrence Avenue from Ellesmere Road on the four lanes running north-south.

Buses arrive infrequently on a weekday afternoon.

You can walk to Lawrence Road and not encounter enough people to start your own rock band.

But it may be the new locale for a multi-stop subway extension worth billions of dollars — one option Mayor John Tory may be leaning towards.

Experts say it doesn't appear there's the density or ridership to justify a subway along the Bellamy Road corridor — or the additional costs it would require to build it.

Patricia Wood, a geography professor at York University who has been taking part in local consultations on the subway, said the Bellamy option has barely registered in discussions.

"For a subway? I wouldn't even run a streetcar along Bellamy," she said. She was surprised it was even selected for the short list. "On every front it doesn't make sense."

Bellamy Road, one of three options the city is now considering for the Scarborough subway extension, is the easternmost route — making it the most viable of the three for Tory, who finds himself with limited choices to build both a heavy rail SmartTrack and a parallel subway.

Many have pointed out that the lines risk becoming redundant if placed too close together, serving the same riders going the same way in the same amount of time.

Tory refuses to publicly endorse any route until final studies come back to council this fall. Behind the scenes, his staff has been looking east for a potential solution. Tory promised this week to do what is "rational."

When you consider the density along the Bellamy Rd. route — a factor that calculates the number of residents and jobs in a defined area — the numbers don't appear to even approach the needed threshold.

Metrolinx has defined the minimum required density for a subway as 250 people and jobs per hectare.

In all three subway route options, Scarborough Town Centre is considered to be a major hub for riders. But a 2012 Metrolinx report citing the most recently available 2006 census numbers says there are only 97.5 people and jobs per hectare in the area measured around the station.

The routes that are packed, even on a weekday afternoon, are those running east-west on Eglinton and Lawrence, to places beyond Bellamy Rd., such as Markham Road and Morningside Avenue. The city's total traffic volume counts confirm a much heavier east-west commute — nearly three times the volume on Bellamy Rd., which pales also in comparison to the volume of traffic on McCowan and Markham Roads. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **For a subway? I wouldn't even run a streetcar along Bellamy. On every front it doesn't make sense.**
> Patricia Wood

Cavs star's younger days

BASKETBALL

Former coach says Thompson was his 'most athletic' player

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Carlo Zoffranieri has watched every single game the Cleveland Cavaliers have played in this year's NBA playoffs.

No, it's not because he's obsessed with LeBron James. Well, there's that. But the high school basketball coach marvels at the growth and skills of his former player currently wreaking all sorts of havoc for teams facing the Cavs: Tristan Thompson.

"Definitely the most athletic player I have coached. Without question," said Zoffranieri, who coached Thompson's team at St. Marguerite d'Youville Secondary School in Brampton.

"I mean, he's made it to the NBA Finals. Very impressive."

Thompson was only 15 and in Grade 10 during the 2006-2007 school year. But he helped Zoffranieri's team win the Catholic schools tournament in Ontario, and they finished that year ranked fourth overall in the province.

The Brampton kid has now evolved into an all-around player. He's among the leading NBA offensive rebounders and a key member of the team that picked him fourth overall in the 2011 draft.

When the Cavaliers open the series against the Golden State Warriors Thursday, Thompson will add his name to the list of very few Canadian players to start in the NBA Finals. That's just four wins away from making the club of even fewer Canadians to win a championship.

And nothing will come as a surprise to his former coach.

> **He'll just do whatever it takes to help his team win.**
> Carlo Zoffranieri

"He's still that kid who plays his heart out. He just gets after it," said Zoffranieri, who still remembers how Thompson could play with his superiors and earn their respect due to his talent and skills.

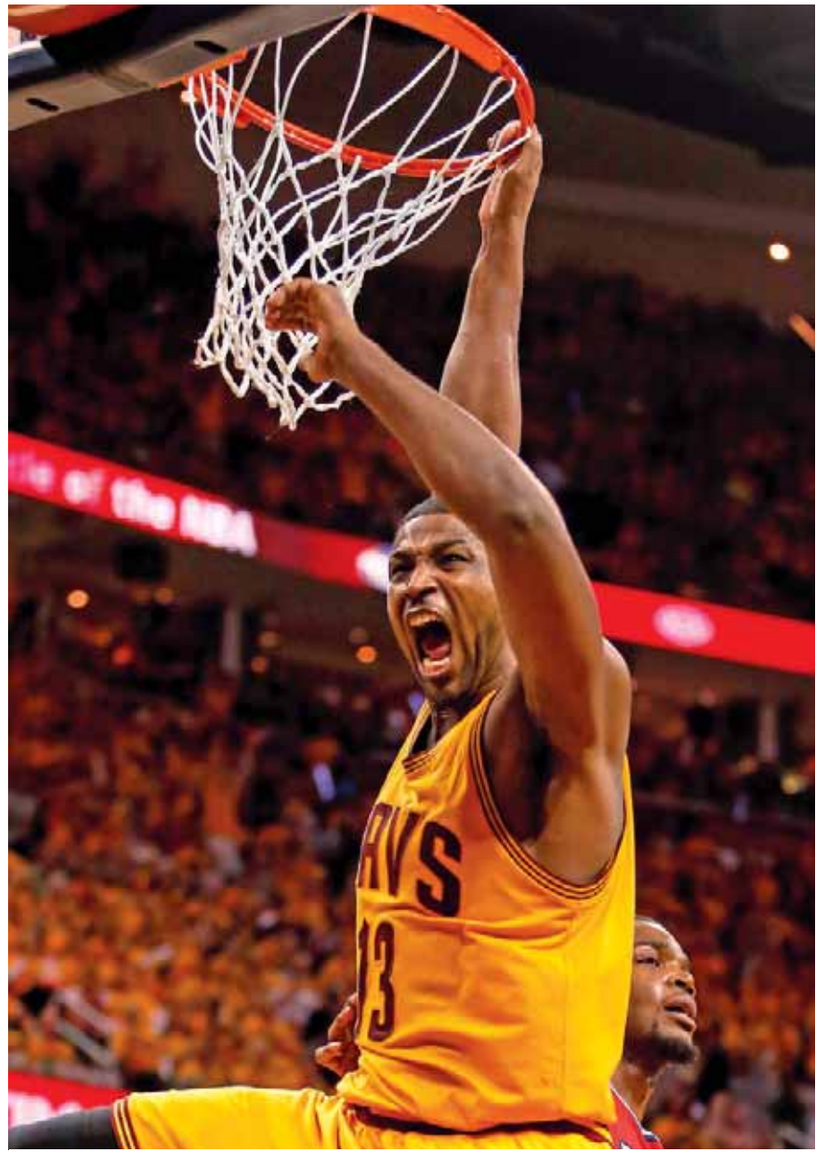
"Block shots. Rebounds. Finish. He'll just do whatever it takes to help his team win."

And he sure is a big inspiration to kids at the Brampton school. Zoffranieri said his current group of students is "pretty shocked" to learn Thompson was in the same class some eight years ago.

"They can't believe it," he said.

"But it is something we are all very proud of."

Tristan Thompson, right, during his formative years in Brampton. CONTRIBUTED



Tristan Thompson has been a key player for the Cleveland Cavaliers in their run to the NBA Finals. GETTY IMAGES

PUBLIC ART

Taking Path by storm

Remember hurricane Hazel?

A new art project done in conjunction with the Pan Am Games is evoking memories of the 60-year-old calamity, which devastated areas around the Humber River.

Artists Gabriel Specter and Dan Bergeron have teamed up with local residents to paint a mural depicting the rebuilding of the Weston-Mount Dennis area. The painting is part of the Pan Am Path project, and was unveiled Saturday.

"We chose to depict the energy of the storm, thinking of it as a birth as opposed to just the destruction of it," said Bergeron. "This whole community was reborn because of Hurricane Hazel."

Neighbourhoods along the Humber were hardest hit by the hurricane in 1954. The storm and flooding claimed 81 lives and destroyed numerous homes.

The Toronto Regional Conservation Authority was formed to deal with the aftermath of the hurricane, and helped create many of the parks that now line the riverbank.

The mural is the third of 14 pieces to be installed along the 84-kilometre Pan Am Path, a bike path that connects trails across the city.

GILBERT NGABO/METRO

A new mural shows hurricane Hazel. COURTESY DAN BERGERON

Henley's a hit with the kids

THE BEACH

Local hedgehog is the subject of three children's books

In Kew Gardens, down a winding path by the red tulips and library, children squeal in delight and adults stop to gawk. Henley the Hedgehog is holding court in front of his "house," a diminutive arched wooden door with antique black hinge at the base of a gnarly oak tree.

Actually, he is scurrying around with an empty toilet paper roll over his head. "Now I've seen everything," says Peter Nightingale, laughing. "Every time I walk by with visitors I point out the little house, but I never saw the hedgehog before."

Henley, the pet of local school teacher Sharon Douris, is a rising celebrity in the Beach neighbourhood. Douris, 50, has written and self-published three children's books about Henley, who visits with school children, has his own Facebook page and drops by his fairytale-like tree house for occasional public appearances.

Douris, a teacher at St. John Catholic School in The Beaches, had always wanted to write children's books. Getting Henley three years ago poked her into action.

The books are geared to Grade 3 and 4 students, but teachers read them to younger kids, and then Douris brings Henley into the classroom.

"It's fun to make the character come to life. Besides," says Douris with a laugh, "what else was I going to do with a hedgehog?"

It's true the little quilled animals don't do a lot. They sleep during the day, although you can wake them up, says Douris. She rubs his furry belly and tickles him behind his tiny ears — he sort of smiles. But when they're scared they curl into a prickly puffed-out ball, and they can bite. She doesn't recommend them as a pet for children younger than 10.

> **It's fun to make the character come to life.**
> Sharon Douris, Henley's owner and author

"They're a fad pet," she says. "Too often when the cute factor wears off, they get sold or sent to a rescue centre."

After an afternoon photo shoot at his tree house, Douris brings Henley home for a bath with baby shampoo. She brushes his quills with a toothbrush, and cradles him in a fluffy bath towel. "You were such a good sport," she says, soothing the tired hedgehog. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Teacher Sharon Douris with her pet hedgehog Henley. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

FAIRIES' HOUSE

The Fairies' House in Kew Gardens. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Children build pebble paths to the nook in the Kew Gardens tree, nicknamed the Fairies' House, where the fairies live and people hang teeny wreaths on the small hinged door.

It's not just for fairies. It's also the home of Henley the Hedgehog. The tiny abode, across from the baseball diamond's third base, started as a photo setting. Henley's owner, Sharon Douris had scouted out tree nooks — she needed one without escape routes — and her husband, Nick Robins, handcrafted the arched wooden door.

In the final of the three books Douris wrote about Henley, the hedgehog goes to his tree house for the winter. The couple left it for children's enjoyment, thinking it might last two weeks. It's now going on two years.

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KENSINGTON MARKET A SOGGY SUNDAY STROLL Kensington Market's first Pedestrian Sunday of the year attracted plenty of eager wanderers despite the rain and chilly temperature. Visitors to the market enjoyed live music, street vendors and a car-free environment.
LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

Youth building homes, hope

VOLUNTEERING

High school student rallies others for charity group

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

A simple trip to his father's birthplace has changed a local teen's perspective forever.

Newton Zheng was only seven when he visited Jieyang, a small town in China where his father was born and raised. The level of poverty he saw shocked him, but, ultimately, ignited in him a desire to help others

"A lot of people didn't have enough food and clothes," he said. "And they were living in these old shelters that were prone to breaking."

Ten years later, the Grade 12 Markville Secondary School student has sprung into action. This summer he is leading a group of 10 youngsters to a volunteer project to build a house for a disadvantaged family in San Jose de Ocoa, Dominican Republic.

It's an initiative built around the charity known as Siempre Juntos Más Fuerte — or Together We Are Stronger. The organization facilitates cross-cultural collaboration by helping Canadian university students get volunteer opportunities abroad.

Zheng didn't want to wait until university.

"I believe that you don't have to be an adult to make a difference," he said.

> **You don't have to be an adult to make a difference.**
> Newton Zheng

The two-week trip and volunteer work this summer will serve as a learning experience, he said. They'll be able to learn how other people live, immerse into a different culture and, at the same time, help someone in need, he said.

Newton Zheng
LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

They're collectively looking to raise $12,000 through donations to help fund their project, and Zheng's personal goal is to raise $1,200 of that.

Zheng envisions turning the experience into a long-term commitment. When his colleagues return, he will encourage them to become mentors of their younger generation.

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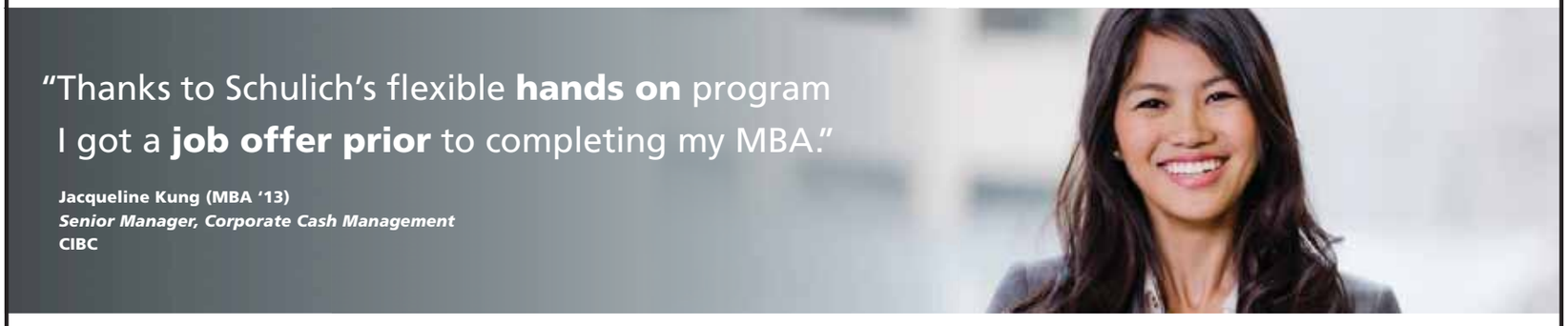
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Toronto Animal Services officer Nicola Ware attempts to capture the peacock that escaped from the High Park Zoo and made its way to the Parkdale area, flying from house to house on Friday. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Peacock may be close to home: Zoo

ANIMALS

Spokeswoman says tweets will lead to lost bird

There were no sightings on Sunday of the elusive peacock that escaped from the High Park Zoo last week, with officials saying they hope the bird has returned to the zoo area on his own.

A spokeswoman for the city says animal control officers tried to capture the bird using nets and blankets, but stopped actively pursuing the peacock on Saturday because they were afraid of driving it farther away.

Nicola Ware says it would make sense that the bird returned to the High Park area in Toronto's west end.

Ware says for it to completely disappear, after being so conspicuous last week, hopefully means he's somewhere "deep inside the park" amid dense foliage.

She says residents are being asked to call the city at 311 if the peacock is sighted.

But Ware has told colleagues to keep an eye on Twitter for information on the bird.

"I'm sure Twitter is going to know before anybody here does."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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ARTS

Mayor cuts red tape for music festival

Mayor John Tory had to step in to help a local acoustic festival navigate the municipal bureaucracy this week — an indication, he admits, that Toronto still has some way to go before it's transformed into "Music City."

Organizers of the Great Heart Festival had been facing about $2,500 in fees to hold the low-key event in Trinity Bellwoods Park from June 18 to 21. But after the mayor learned of the situation on Thursday, he intervened and the cost was reduced to about $1,300.

Tory is pledging the city will use the incident as a learning experience in his quest to turn Toronto into a global hotbed for the music industry.

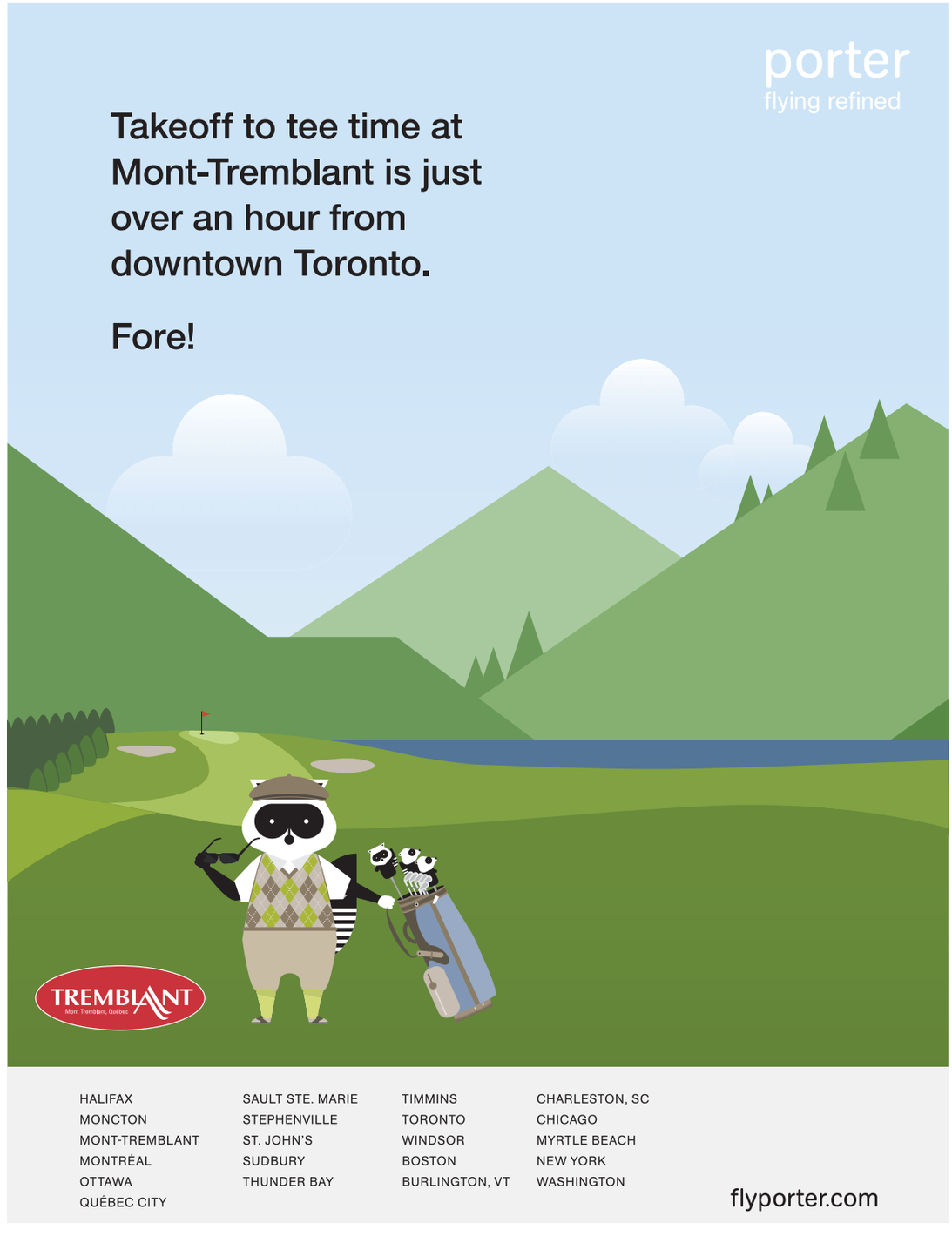
"We've agreed to do better going forward," the mayor said in an interview. "(The Great Heart Festival is) the kind of thing that's going to have to happen if Toronto is going to be Music City."

Tory said that to make it easier for musicians to obtain permits, he has instructed that from now on there be "direct and immediate" communication between the parks department and the city's new music office whenever someone applies for a music-related event in a public park.

> **We've agreed to do better going forward.**
> Mayor John Tory

The four-day Great Heart festival, held every year since 2010, is a pared-down affair. There's no stage, the musicians aren't amplified, and the concerts are free. The event is run by the Young Lions Music Club, an independent promotions company, and Humble Empire, which makes music videos.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



6,000 kids may have died in residential schools

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Justice Sinclair says deaths not recorded after around 1920

The commission that has spent five years examining one of the darkest chapters in Canada's history is winding up its work with a key question left unanswered — exactly how many aboriginal children died in residential schools?

Justice Murray Sinclair, who heads the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, says the federal government stopped recording the deaths around 1920 after the chief medical officer at Indian Affairs suggested children were dying at an alarming rate.

"He was fired," Sinclair says. "The government stopped recording deaths of children in residential schools, we think, probably because the rates were so high."

Sinclair has guessed up to 6,000 children may have died at the schools, but it's impossible to say with certainty.

Assembly of First Nations Chief Perry Bellegarde (in headdress) and Justice Murray Sinclair (in black suit), TRC commissioner, march during the Walk for Reconciliation, part of the closing events of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Sunday in Gatineau, Que. THE CANADIAN PRESS

More than 130 years after the first residential schools were established to "take the Indian out of the child," the commission will release a summary of its six-volume final report on Tuesday. It will include testimony from survivors, as well as numerous recommendations.

The commission didn't originally intend to examine how many children never came home, but it quickly emerged as an issue, Sinclair says.

Schools were often crowded, poorly ventilated and unsanitary. Children died from smallpox, measles, influenza and tuberculosis. Some were buried in unmarked graves in school cemeteries, while others were listed as "missing" or "discharged." In some cases, parents never found out what happened.

Some provinces handed over death certificates to the commission, but Sinclair says the work is far from over.

The $60-million commission was part of a landmark compensation deal between Ottawa, the Crown and residential school survivors. It visited hundreds of communities and heard testimony from 7,000 survivors, including graphic details of rampant sexual and physical abuse.

The legacy of the schools is evident today, Sinclair says. High poverty rates, a large number of aboriginal children in foster care, a disproportionate number of aboriginals in jail and hundreds of missing and murdered aboriginal women can all be traced back to residential schools, he suggests.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

POLICE

Officers criticize rollout of carbines

RCMP officers who raced to a New Brunswick neighbourhood under siege by Justin Bourque say the force has failed to supply them with recommended guns and training, months after a report urged the organization to do just that.

Some frontline officers, who spoke to The Canadian Press on the condition that they remain anonymous because they are not allowed to speak publicly, say they fear for their safety because most members still do not have carbine rifles or training on how to use them.

One RCMP member says officers feel they are outgunned and are increasingly bitter that repeated calls for better weaponry over the last decade haven't prompted a swift response from RCMP headquarters. He says only four people in his detachment of about 80 members have been trained on the Colt C8 carbine, a semi-automatic weapon that is highly regarded for its accuracy and long range. THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Female Mounties seeking to file class-action lawsuit

At age 22, Quebec native Joanne Mayer was greeted at her first RCMP posting in Gibsons, B.C., with a handshake and a blunt statement from the sergeant: "We don't think women should be in the force, and especially not French-speaking ones."

Mayer said that along with her regular duties, she spent over two years doing "sexist" chores including making coffee, ensuring there was an ample supply of cream and sugar, and cleaning police cruisers. Now, Mayer has joined hundreds of other former and current RCMP members hoping for justice over alleged gender discrimination with a potential class-action lawsuit. A hearing to determine certification of a class-action proceeding involving 362 women is set to begin Monday in B.C.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Challenge coming for succession law

MONARCHY

Profs reject way U.K. law was adopted by Ottawa

The birth of Prince George before his sister Charlotte averted the need for a major change in British tradition.

But the recent law that changed the rules of royal succession will be challenged in Quebec court beginning Monday, and could have political consequences in Canada.

The challenge could even force Ottawa to undertake a round of constitutional negotiations, say the lawyers behind the suit.

In 2011 — while the world wondered if the firstborn of royal couple William and Kate would be a boy or a girl — the leaders of the 16 Commonwealth countries agreed to change the succession rules to allow an eldest girl to become queen.

Before the change, she would have been passed over in favour of her brother.

The Harper government implemented the change by a simple federal law in 2013.

According to Patrick Taillon and Genevieve Motard, law professors at the University of Laval, this was a change to Canada's constitution that should have required the consent of the provinces, which Harper didn't seek. They are aiming to have the law declared unconstitutional.

The professors have the support of Quebec's Attorney General and — improbably — a monarchist league, the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust.

The government argues that the modification made by the British Parliament concerning the monarchy applies automatically under Canadian law — Ottawa had only to pass a law giving "assent," with no need for a constitutional change.

Those who are contesting the law say the British Parliament lost its right to legislate for Canada with the repatriation of the Constitution in 1982.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prince William and Prince George. THE CANADIAN PRESS

EDMONTON

Mermaid tail battle making a splash

Krista Visinski is determined to be a mermaid, even if she's not allowed in the water right now.

The Edmonton mother has been preparing for more than a year to become a professional sea nymph and teach exercise classes, host children's parties and appear at public events.

But her plan was recently put on hold when the city announced a ban on mermaid tails, a trendy swim accessory, in its pools.

The 24-year-old delivered a petition to the city this week with nearly 600 names, some of them parents of children who dream of swimming like Ariel from the Disney movie The Little Mermaid.

> **There's inherent risk with everything associated with kids.**
> Krista Visinski

Others, calling themselves mermaid advocates, say anyone should be able to swim with a tail.

"Other mermaids in Canada are afraid that a ripple effect is going to happen," Visinski says.

Mermaid tails have been on the market for a few years but recently started gaining popularity in Canada. Several companies make different versions, but most tails consist of a colourful fabric around the legs that stretches from the waist and over a neoprene monofin that holds both feet.

A City of Edmonton spokesman says there is concern the tails promote holding one's breath under water for long periods of time and can lead to blackouts and drowning. Perry Fulop, a manager with the City of Surrey in B.C., says officials there have banned the tails during public swims for similar reasons.

But if there is demand, pools may hold specific mermaid swim times, he says.

"I think we like the idea of children using mermaid tails. We're just trying to figure out the best method of implementing it."

Visinski says she understands why there might be a safety concern with children, but if they're properly supervised and taught how to swim with bound legs, there shouldn't be a problem.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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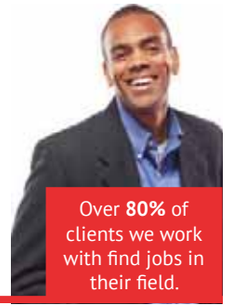

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NSA's surveillance programs expire

COUNTERTERROR

U.S. Senate fails to extend deal ahead of midnight

The National Security Agency was expected to lose its authority at midnight Sunday to collect Americans' phone records in bulk, after an extraordinary Sunday Senate session failed to produce a deal to extend the fiercely contested program.

Intelligence officials warned that the outcome amounts to a win for extremist groups. But civil liberties groups applauded the demise, at least temporarily, of the once-secret program made public by NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

The program is all but certain to be revived in a matter of days, although it also looks certain to be completely overhauled under House of Representatives-passed legislation that Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell reluctantly blessed Sunday evening.

With most senators opposed to extending the current law unchanged, even for a short time, McConnell said the House bill was the only option left, other than letting the program die off.

The Senate voted 77-17 to move ahead on the House-passed bill. But no final action was expected before Sunday's midnight deadline after McConnell's fellow Kentucky Republican Sen. Rand Paul said he would assert his prerogatives under Senate rules to delay a final vote for several days.

"This is what we fought the revolution over, are we going to so blithely give up our freedom?" Paul said. Fellow Republicans exited the chamber en masse when he stood up to speak.

Sen. John McCain complained to reporters that Paul places "a higher priority on his fundraising and his ambitions than on the security of the nation."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., walks to the Senate Chamber on Sunday. CLIFF OWEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In addition to the bulk phone collections provision, two lesser-known Patriot Act provisions also lapsed at midnight: One, so far unused, helps track "lone wolf" terrorism suspects unconnected to a foreign power. The second allows the government to eavesdrop on suspects who continually discard their cellphones. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIA

Intense heat wave to last another day

Despite hopes that weekend thundershowers would help end a raging heat wave in southern India, the rain brought only limited relief as the death toll since mid-April approached 2,200.

Officials said Sunday that the scorching heat was likely to continue for another day in worst-hit Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states.

Daytime temperatures hovered between 45 and 47 degrees Celsius in parts of the two states over the weekend, 3 to 7 degrees Celsius above normal, said K.Y. Reddy, a director of the Meteorological Center in the Telangana state capital of Hyderabad.

Andhra Pradesh has been hit the hardest, with 1,636 people dying in the state from the heat over the past month and a half, a government statement said. Another 561 people have died in neighbouring Telangana, said Sada Bhargavi, a state disaster management commissioner.

Twenty-two people have died in northern Uttar Pradesh state over the past two weeks, said Raj Shekhar, a state government official. The Press Trust of India news agency said 21 people have died from the heat in eastern Orissa state, seven in western Gujarat state and two in New Delhi, India's capital. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

John Kerry breaks leg in bicycle accident

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry has delayed his trip back to the United States to stay in a Swiss hospital overnight after breaking his leg in a bicycle crash Sunday.

State Department spokesman John Kirby said after further consultation that it was sensible for him to remain in the hospital for observation overnight as a precaution.

Kerry had to scrap the rest of a four-nation trip that included an international conference on combating the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Artists at helm of careers

MUSIC INDUSTRY

Canadian musicians taking care of business

With his extravagant wiry beard, thick black-rimmed glasses and a mop of unruly hair, Ben Caplan doesn't look like a typical businessman.

But the Halifax-based musician is one of many Canadian artists who are at the helm of their careers, handling the business side of their music.

It's a rising trend in the music industry, said Caplan.

"If you want to make a living as a musician, particularly as a songwriter, I think you have to have some entrepreneurial sensibility," the folk singer-songwriter said.

"You've got to be able to treat it like running a business and to think about it like running a business because essentially that's what it is. You are a small business owner and you are an entrepreneur."

Even Juno Award-winning artists are jumping from major labels to take full control of their careers.

Ben Caplan, a Nova Scotia musician, runs his career as a small business and takes responsibility for promoting and controlling his artistic expression. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto R&B artist Jully Black, who left Universal Music several years ago, said self-represented artists are not a trend but an "evolution."

A Toronto-based program says it is filling a void in the Canadian music industry by helping artists learn how to run their own careers.

> **"You've got to be able to treat it like running a business.**
> Ben Caplan

Vel Omazic, executive director of Canada's Music Incubator, said the innovative program teaches artists about the business of the music industry.

He said nowadays, industry officials like labels and publicists are not willing to work with artists until they have established a "viable business."

"They're not simply entertainment. They're running a business just like anybody else," said Omazic, whose program sees about 40 artists per year.

Omazic said technology and social media have played huge roles in empowering musicians to run their own show.

Because of the accessibility of technology, artists can produce their own music more easily, whereas a few decades ago, you would have needed the backing of a label, or thousands of dollars, said Omazic. Marketing has also been made easy through social media, he said.

But Omazic said artists also shouldn't expect to find overnight success.

"That whole myth about throwing your video up on YouTube (and being discovered) is like buying a lottery ticket," he said. "It's about putting in the time and putting in the work ... and the artist is really left to their own devices to work up to the point where they have a business. There's no short-cut."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

NDP tabling motion to ban pay-to-pay bank fees

Flush from its success in getting rid of the GST on feminine hygiene products — the so-called tampon tax — the NDP now wants the House of Commons to abolish "pay-to-pay" fees charged by big banks. Andrew Cash, the NDP's consumer protection critic, will table a motion on Monday calling for an end to such practices as charging for paper bills. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Australia pushing Canada over wine access: Memo

Australia is pressuring a reluctant Canada to lower trade barriers on its wine industry as part of the ongoing negotiations of the Trans Pacific Partnership, pushing for similar concessions that were won by the European Union, according to an internal memo from the Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development. Canada is pushing back because it doesn't appear to want a repeat of the concessions it offered Europe. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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#MYMETRO

Amanda Easton, Calgary

What are you up to?
It is my first time at Lilac Festival today, so we are just checking out the shops, and then hopefully we will hit some beer tents afterwards. We are really enjoying it. It is amazing to have this nice weather and maybe get a tan.

What is your commute?
I'm in the Beltline, and I do drive. I probably should walk, though. I drive about 10 minutes to downtown for work.

What are you binge-watching or reading right now?
Brooklyn Nine-Nine. It is hilarious. It just makes me laugh, and it is just really different and really cool.

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Sorry, Tory, one of your projects has to go

TORY'S TORONTO
Matt Elliott

This week is a big one for mayor John Tory. He's officially made it through his first six months in office.

And he did it without becoming ensnared in scandal or embroiled in a police investigation. For clearing that low bar, I'll salute him.

Still, it's not been all smooth sailing for Tory. There's a worrisome pattern that has started to emerge — a pattern that could define this mayor's legacy.

In short, Tory is in support of spending a lot of money on things Toronto doesn't necessarily need.

Take the Scarborough Subway. It's always been a project of dubious value, costing far more than the previously-approved Scarborough LRT which would have been fully funded by the provincial government.

Tory supported the subway during last year's election, reasoning that it didn't make sense to yet again reverse course on a transit project.

But now that position is looking extra costly. Last week, a report circulated detailing new route options for the subway project. Consideration of these options has been necessitated by Tory's own SmartTrack surface rail plan, which also runs through Scarborough.

These alternative routes could push the subway budget beyond the original $3.56 billion — maybe by another $600 million.

The bills are piling up.

SmartTrack itself could also be a major budget headache for Tory. He's committed to delivering the $8-billion project within seven years, but funds from the other levels of government haven't really materialized, leaving Tory on the hook.

The total cost could likely be reduced if Tory were to modify his SmartTrack plan, removing the pricey western portion that would run underground on Eglinton Avenue West. But so far he's been reluctant to do that.

And then there's the Gardiner Expressway. Tory's 2015 city budget injected $443 million into the city's 10-year plan to rehabilitate the expressway west of Jarvis Street. Since then, Tory has also come out in favour of maintaining the eastern elevated connection between Jarvis and the Don Valley Parkway.

That position will require him to find another half-billion in life-cycle costs, compared to the cost of replacing this stretch with a simple boulevard.

With the Scarborough subway, the western leg of SmartTrack and the eastern Gardiner, Tory is committed to some big-money projects in a city that doesn't really have big money to spend. Meanwhile, things like transit accessibility and affordable housing repairs remain overlooked.

But there's still time to make things right. Tory should stand on principle and drop his support for at least one of these projects — a move that would bring his plans more in line with what planners and engineers say the city actually needs.

Do that, and Tory may yet leave a legacy as a city builder. As it is, he's more likely to be remembered as a builder of debt.

Matt Elliott lives and writes in Toronto. Follow him on Twitter @GraphicMatt

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

It's time to apologize for the persecution of gays and lesbians

It was dubbed the fruit machine.

Created by the Canadian government in the 1960s, it was supposed to determine if you were gay.

It could be from a John le Carré novel, but it's a real part of our government's history of terrorizing gays and lesbians in the civil service. And it's past time for an apology.

Developed by a Canadian psychologist, the fruit machine measured pupil dilation and palm sweat as you viewed images of half-naked men or women. On top of that came intrusive questions about masculinity and femininity, all in a bid to scientifically deduce your sexuality.

The fruit machine never made it out of the testing phase. It was scrapped in 1967. But investigations, interrogations and dismissals of gay employees continued for decades.

Throughout the Cold War period, the government viewed gays as a security risk whose "character weakness" left them susceptible to blackmail, said Laurentian University professor emeritus Gary Kinsman.

"Thousands and thousands of people were investigated by the RMCP during these years."

You've likely not heard about this. You soon will.

Activists, NDP MPs and victims of the purge will gather on Parliament Hill Tuesday to demand an official government apology for Canada's so-called war on queers (the title of a book co-authored by Kinsman). It's not the first such call. But let's hope it's the last.

First and foremost, for people like Christine. In the late 1970s, she was interrogated and lost her job in the military for being a lesbian.

She was asked, "Do you like to masturbate in front of a mirror? Who takes the garbage out? Do you use a dildo? Do you hate men?" according to a statement from the We Demand an Apology Network.

Investigators demanded suspects like Christine give the names of other gays, and denied them security clearances for promotions. Fear led people to closet themselves and, in some cases, commit suicide, Kinsman said.

For the victims, an apology would bring closure and restore honour. For the rest of us, it would reveal the truth.

We need to hear about this hunt that ruined careers and lives. We need to hear about the science-fiction-esque fruit machine and the bigoted philosophy behind it.

Keeping silent would implicitly condone discrimination that is, in different ways, still happening today.

Homophobia has no place in our government. It's time to step up and declare it never did.

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Your essential daily news

Paris to break tourist hearts with removal of one million 'love locks'

The sharing economy

The Uber effect changes everything

ON-DEMAND

Services at the touch of a screen keep expanding

A taxi app. A ride-sharing company. A mobile-based car service.

Uber, invariably described as one of the above, will face Toronto city hall's lawyers on Monday to argue over whether it operates as an unlicensed cab service.

Last week, Edmonton cab drivers marched in protest at city hall, shouting "shame, shame" because they say the ride-sharing program doesn't fall under the same regulations they do. City councils from Calgary to Ottawa are trying to figure out how, and if, to regulate this new and growing business.

But don't let the regulatory fight distract you: Uber isn't really about cars.

Uber's app now connects ride seekers to drivers in more than 300 cities. But the explosive success of its business model — service delivery at the tap of a touch screen, usually provided by casual contractors — is so widely imitated that it's even launched new lingo in the tech startup world: "It's like Uber for X," or "Uber for fill-in-the-blank," has become an eye-rolling cliché among the tech press corps.

On-demand mobile business is growing. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Among the range of what are sometimes called "on-demand mobile services," there are Uber-like apps for groceries, babysitters and valet parking. There are others for manicurists, bodyguards and medical marijuana. Uber itself offers food delivery in four cities, including this one.

You don't have to like Uber — and the aggressively expanding company has attracted its fair share of criticism. But you should know that any licensing-and-standards squabble is just one corner of a bigger conversation about technology, jobs and digital disruption.

Below are some of the other services the Uber model has spawned. (Unlike Uber itself, few are available in Canada — so far.) TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Uber for laundry

In the Washio app, users set a 30-minute pickup window for their dry cleaning and laundry. A "ninja" comes to get the clothes and returns them a day later, clean.

Uber for takeout

In an increasingly crowded field, apps like Caviar, SpoonRocket and UberEATS let users tap on a restaurant-cooked meal option and have it delivered to their door or desk by couriers (or by Uber drivers during the low-volume lunch hour).

Uber for anything (legal) you want

A startup called Magic went viral last year after billing itself as the quintessential "Uber for X," or "Uber for fill-in-the-blank." Text an operator anything (legal) you want — a plate of sushi bicycled to the park bench you're sitting at, an airplane ticket to Portugal, a puppy — and the service will get it to you. Uber co-founder Garrett Camp recently launched a slicker version of a similar get-me-anything service, a personal shopping app called Operator.

Uber for groceries

Apps like Instacart let users fill up a virtual grocery cart. When they hit the "buy" button, shoppers — freelancers who receive a notification based on their location — pick up the goods and pocket part of a flat fee.

Uber for child and pet minding

Apps such as Urbansitter and the Toronto-based DateNight connect parents with local, available and vetted childminders, while services including DogVacay and DoggyBnB link pet owners with walkers and sitters.

New project for old flames

PUBLISHING

Mindy Kaling and B.J. Novak announce $7M book deal

Mindy Kaling and B.J. Novak say they are indeed writing a book together. The deal is worth at least $7 million, according to publishing officials with knowledge of the negotiations.

The two were on a panel at BookCon on Saturday at the Javits Center in New York. It was organized for Novak to interview Kaling about her upcoming second book Why Not Me? due out in September.

The 35-year-olds — who worked together on NBC's comedy The Office as writers, producers and supporting cast members — said they just started working on the book for Penguin Random House.

"It's very early in the creative process," Novak said. Kaling was more enthusiastic.

"It's going to be awesome," she said. "The ideas that we've had so far have been super exciting."

On The Office, their characters had a dysfunctional on-again off-again relationship. Kaling has publicly stated the two have also dated in real life. She now calls Novak her best friend. The two alluded to their romantic history more than once Saturday, to squeals and laughter from audience members.

Kaling said her first book, 2011's bestselling Is Everyone Hanging Out without Me? (And Other Concerns) was to "introduce the world to me." She wrote it while still working on The Office. Her second book focuses on her life since then. She described it as "incredibly honest and vulnerable."

Kaling is also the executive producer and star of The Mindy Project, a comedy that was just cancelled by Fox after three seasons but picked up by Hulu for 26 episodes.

Novak is also a bestselling author. He released a book of short stories and a children's book last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LITERARY FANS

When celebrity culture meets publishing biz

Tens of thousands BookCon attendees — far younger and more diverse than the average publishing house or literary agency — lined up for hours to see Khloe Kardashian; waited eagerly to watch Kaling banter with Novak; shed tears at the chance of meeting Sookie Stackhouse author Charlaine Harris; and toted around suitcases to fill with books.

Mindy Kaling and B.J. Novak announce joint book deal with Penguin Random House. GETTY IMAGES

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How to say no to superiors

ETIQUETTE

Taking on extra work can mean performing below par

OFFICE RELATIONS

Eleni Deacon

There should be a payoff if you take on beyond-your-job duties. ISTOCK

Your days are so packed with meetings and emails that you barely have time for work. You've got a report due next Wednesday and a presentation the following morning. You stay late at the office and spend Sundays catching up. But when your manager asks for help on a new project, you cheerfully agree — despite having long surpassed max capacity. After all, isn't it bad to say no to your boss? Not necessarily.

While no employee wants to appear unco-operative, excessive compliance sends an equally dangerous message: that you're never not on call. It can be uncomfortable to assert boundaries — but it's even more uncomfortable to exhaust yourself by accepting a not-humanly-possible pile of work.

When tasked with beyond-your-job duties, assess the request. Is it a meaty project that could give your career a boost? That could be worth shuffling your priorities. Mundane grunt-work with no foreseeable payoff? Your weekend would be better spent at the pool. Learning to say no isn't about constantly saying you can't — it's about saying yes more selectively.

> **It's about saying yes more selectively.**

If the idea of standing your ground makes you shudder, remember that saying no doesn't literally mean saying the word. When your boss presents you with extra assignments, express calm but firm concern. Outline what's presently on your plate and explain that your current endeavours might suffer if your attention is diverted. Don't whine about having too much to do. Keep the focus on maintaining the quality of work, rather than complaining about volume.

Still can't agree to say no? Consider a compromise. Maybe you're too swamped to write that entire debrief, but a few sections might be manageable. And while a big new project just won't fit your sched, you could offer to supervise someone more junior — read: less frazzled — while they learn the ropes. A flat-out no leaves your boss without any option but to insist you do the work. By providing an alternative course of action, you give yourself an out.

Doing a great job doesn't necessarily mean doing every job. Learn to limit your load, and you'll leave room to overperform. Overextend and you're likely to under-deliver.

IN BRIEF

Narcissism in numbers

According to U.K. online publication the Mirror, an average young woman spends five hours a week taking selfies. Hey, it takes a long time to put on makeup, get the hair right, master the perfect pout, find an attractive angle, choose a filter...

Those five hours average out to about 48 minutes a day. It certainly seems like a long time to snap a pretty picture. It doesn't mention any other stats, like how long the average woman spends looking at other people's selfies on Instagram.

EMILY LAURENCE/METRO NEW YORK

48

The average number of minutes young women spend snapping selfies every day, according to a study done by the Mirror in the U.K.

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CANADIAN PREMIERE

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APP REVIEWS KRIS ABEL'S DIGITAL PICKS FOR THE WEEK

MIND THE APP

Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel

EBOOKS

Exploring Calvin & Hobbes

- Kindle/iBooks/Kobo
- By: Bill Waterson

In this retrospective of his work, a normally reclusive Bill Watterson allows for an in-depth look at his childhood, artistic influences and storytelling craft. Presented alongside early drawings, it delivers an intimacy and candour that fans have been waiting for.

APP

Google Photos

- iPhone/Android
- Free

Now offering unlimited storage for videos and photos, Google's image editor will also analyze and identify the content of your images to automatically organize them for you into groups and make them easier to share online. It will even identify people and track them as they age.

APP

Foodtweeks

- iPhone
- Free

Share what you're planning to eat and this app will suggest calorie-reducing tweaks, such as removing cheese from a burger or skin from a chicken breast. Log enough of these actions or share them on social media and Foodtweeks will make a donation to a food bank.

APP

Runtastic Leg Workout Trainer

- iPhone/Android
- Free

This collection of 50 instructional videos focuses entirely on lower body workouts. Designed to be done without equipment, you can customize a routine by time limit and difficulty level, styles include Pilates and Lungden's Leg.

Google and Levi Strauss will make clothing with touch-screen control capabilities. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Google and Levi's launch tech fabric

TECHNOLOGY

Science and heritage join forces for new clothing line

Google has announced that it's working with iconic U.S. jean maker Levi Strauss to create clothing from specially woven fabric with touch-screen control capabilities.

The Internet titan used its annual developers conference in San Francisco to reveal Project Jacquard and spotlight Levi Strauss as its first partner.

Named after a Frenchman who invented a type of loom, Project Jacquard is the brainchild of a small Google division called Advanced Technology and Projects (ATAP). ATAP is different from the Google(x) lab that develops big-vision innovations such as self-driving cars.

"We are enabling interactive textiles," said Emre Karagozler of ATAP. "We do it by weaving conductive threads into fabric."

The special threads can be woven into a wide array of fabrics and be made to visually stand out or go unnoticed depending on designers' wishes.

Conductivity can be limited to desired parts of fabric or spread across entire cloth.

"It is stretchable; it is washable," said Karagozler. "It is just like normal fabric."

Any fabric in anything from suits or dresses to furniture and carpet, could have computer touch-pad style control capabilities woven in.

FUTURISTIC THREADS

Conductive yarn developed by Google can be woven into any textile, from car seat fabric to power suits.

Conductive yarn is connected to tiny circuits, no bigger than jacket buttons, with miniaturized electronics. These electronics use algorithms to recognize touches or swipes, ATAP said. The data can be sent wirelessly to smartphones or other devices, enabling actions such as making phone calls or sending messages with a mere brush of fabric.

"Project Jacquard delivers an entirely new value to consumers with apparel that is emotional, aspirational and functional," said Paul Dillinger, head of global product innovation at Levi Strauss. AFP

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Now that's dedication: Enrique Iglesias performs while holding his bloodied and bandaged right hand behind his back during a concert in Tijuana, Mexico, on Saturday. FRANCIS RAMSDEN VIA THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Enrique soldiers on after drone mishap

FREAK ACCIDENT

Singer slices fingers at show but plays on for half hour more

Enrique Iglesias was recovering Sunday after some of his fingers were sliced when he grabbed a drone during a concert in Tijuana, Mexico.

A representative for the singer said in a statement to The Associated Press that Iglesias was "semi-treated" after the accident at the side of the stage to stop the bleeding on Saturday night. He was advised to end the show but went on to perform for an additional 30 minutes.

"During the show a drone is used to get crowd shots and some nights Enrique grabs the drone to give the audience a Point of View shot. Something went wrong and he had an accident," the statement read. "He decided to go on and continued playing for 30 minutes while the bleeding continued throughout the show."

Concertgoers at Plaza de Toros de Playas posted photos on social media of Iglesias, 40, with blood all over his white T-shirt.

"He was rushed to the airport where an ambulance met him there. He was then put on a plane to L.A. to see a specialist," the statement read. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOUR

Iglesias' show for 12,000 fans is part of his Sex and Love World Tour.

His website says his next show is in July in Mexico City.

GOSSIP NOTES Surreal digs on the market and a big cover shoot

Jackson's Neverland selling for $100M

Neverland, the sprawling California ranch that was once the location of "King of Pop" Michael Jackson's mind-boggling amusement park, is up for sale for $100 million, realtors said Friday.

But an expert said the price tag is "optimistic," given the unproven charges of child molestation that tainted Jackson's final years before his death in 2009.

The late star built up his Neverland Ranch on 2,700 acres outside Santa Barbara to include zoo animals, numerous amusement rides and lavish gardens. It has 22 buildings, according to the Wall Street Journal.

The animals have been removed, save for a single llama, and the property has changed hands and is now called the Sycamore Valley Ranch. An online property listing included pictures of the Normandy-mansion property, complete with pools and fountains, bridges and a decorative shrubbery with the name "Neverland" spelled out above a beflowered clock face. AFP

Aerial view of the Neverland Valley Ranch in Santa Ynez, Calif., in 2001. GETTY IMAGES

Jenner to debut as woman in Vanity Fair

Bruce Jenner is apparently choosing his big moments wisely. While he's kept pretty quiet since his big Diane Sawyer interview in April, the Olympian is reportedly planning to have his first appearance as a woman be the June cover of Vanity Fair.

And I mean, if you're going to live in public, you might as well live in the really good parts of it. Honestly, an Annie Leibovitz-shot Vanity Fair cover is by far the classiest thing to happen to anyone associated with Keeping up with the Kardashians in a long, long time. NED EHRBAR/METRO

NO 'DUMB ACTRESS'

Portman opens up about college woes

Harvard graduate and Oscar winner Natalie Portman returned to Cambridge this year to speak at commencement, and she used the opportunity to get candid about the difficulties she faced when she first arrived at the school.

"It's easy to romanticize my time here, but I had some difficult times. Being 19, dealing with my first heartbreak, taking birth control that's now off the market due to its depressive side effects," Portman revealed during her speech.

And then there was the whole being in Star Wars thing: "When I got to Harvard just after the release of Star Wars: Episode I, I feared people would assume I had gotten in just for being famous, and not worthy of the intellectual rigour here," she said, adding that she was desperate to prove she "wasn't a dumb actress."

Look, I know she's trying to be inspiring and all, but seriously, if beautiful, famous and intelligent Natalie Portman can't make it through undergrad unscathed, what hope is there for us mere mortals? NED EHRBAR/METRO IN HOLLYWOOD

GREAT ESCAPE

Iggy's tour a no-go for second time

Iggy Azalea has cancelled her U.S. tour for a second time. The Fancy rapper tweeted Friday "as u may know, the tour is cancelled." She added that she's "so sad and sorry to let my fans down."

Azalea announced in March that The Great Escape Tour would not kick off in April. She rescheduled the tour due to production delays and said it would take place this fall.

Representatives from Azalea's record label, Def Jam, and tour promoter, AEG, didn't return emails seeking comment. Azalea didn't offer any details about the second cancellation.

The Grammy-nominated rapper, whose recent single is Pretty Girls with Britney Spears, tweeted that she'll "be back out on the road when the next album is done."

Azalea said she's still committed to her upcoming festival performances. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LIVE-TWEETED SAGA

Kristen Bell's Uber awkward carpool

There's a lesson to be learned from Kristen Bell's recent misadventure with Uber: Be careful which option you select, because Uber Pool — the furthest one to the left — means you're sharing your ride.

The Veronica Mars star thought she was getting a normal, iPhone-enabled ride home when things took a turn for the more communal. "Didn't know Uber had a carpool option, but my driver just pulled over and said, 'Gotta pick someone else up.' This should be fun," she tweeted.

But her discomfort is our entertainment, as she went on to live-tweet the incredibly awkward ride, fears for her safety and all: "Not sure where the other rider is headed but we're getting close to my house," she wrote. "Then it occurs to me 'What if he's coming over?'"

Huh. Maybe the lesson is keep using the Uber Pool option because unwitting celebrities might end up sharing some awkward silence with you. NED EHRBAR/METRO

metro SPORTS

The New Orleans Pelicans have hired Alvin Gentry as their new head coach

Monday, June 1, 2015

Twins profit on Jays' sins

MLB

Miscues prove costly in series finale in Minny

SUNDAY In Minneapolis

6	5
TWINS	BLUE JAYS

Drew Hutchison tried giving the Toronto Blue Jays the start they needed in order to get back on track. Through five innings, he did just that.

Things fell apart for the Blue Jays after that as fielding errors and baserunning miscues helped the Minnesota Twins rally for a 6-5 win to hand Toronto its 12th loss in 18 games. The Blue Jays are 2-10 in that stretch in games decided by two runs or fewer.

"We got exposed today," Toronto manager John Gibbons said. "It's been happening a little bit lately."

Toronto led 4-1 in the sixth thanks to Jose Reyes' two-run single in the second, a sacrifice fly by Ryan Goins in the fourth and an RBI single by Russell Martin in the fifth.

After Joe Mauer's RBI single and Trevor Plouffe's two-run homer in the sixth tied the score, the Blue Jays retook the lead in the seventh on Josh Donaldson's 15th homer — his fifth in his last six games. One batter earlier, Reyes was thrown out trying to stretch a single into a double on a bloop single to centre.

"I just try to be aggressive on the basepaths," Reyes said. "That's the way I've been throughout my career, and why I have to slow down now? They threw me out. That's part of the game."

Reyes' throwing error in the seventh allowed Aaron Hicks to reach safely in the bottom half against Roberta Osuna (1-2). Brian Dozier then singled and Torii Hunter launched a two-run double to left field.

"At the end of the day, a loss is a loss, whether it's by one run or 10 runs," Donaldson said. "I feel like right now we're doing a pretty good job of being competitive, and you know we're going to go out there and hopefully start winning more games."

Ryan Pressly (3-1) got two outs for the win, and the Twins overcame an early injury to starter Ricky Nolasco to win two of three in the series. A sore right ankle ended Nolasco's bid for a sixth straight victory in the second inning, forcing him to leave after throwing just 28 pitches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INJURY UPDATE

The pain in Devon Travis's non-throwing shoulder has snuck up on him again. The second baseman has been shut down for at least another week and will be travelling to the Blue Jays' training facility in Dunedin, Fla., for more treatment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Brian Dozier forces the Blue Jays' Ezequiel Carrera at second base to start a double play on Sunday in Minneapolis. HANNAH FOSLIEN/GETTY IMAGES

FIFA

Ex-VP cites The Onion in panning of U.S.

Former FIFA vice-president Jack Warner renewed his criticism of the United States, where he faces corruption charges, on Sunday by releasing a pair of videotaped comments — one of them based on a story by satirical website The Onion.

"This past week has been a most trying one for me, a most difficult one," Warner said.

Even Sunday wasn't easy, when Warner needed two attempts to get his message across by telling followers that the latest accusations against him stem largely from the U.S. being upset that it did not win the rights to host the 2022 World Cup — which went to Qatar.

In an eight-minute Facebook video, which was quickly deleted after numerous news reports picked up on the gaffe, Warner held up a printout of a fictitious story from The Onion bearing the headline: "FIFA Frantically Announces 2015 Summer World Cup In United States."

The fake story was published on Wednesday, hours after Warner was indicted in the U.S. and arrested and briefly jailed in Trinidad. Warner asked why the story was "two days before the FIFA election" when Sepp Blatter was re-elected as president.

Warner asked "if FIFA is so bad why is it the U.S. wants ... the World Cup?" Additionally, Warner said that FIFA is "the very same organization they (the U.S.) are accusing of being corrupt. That has to be double standards."

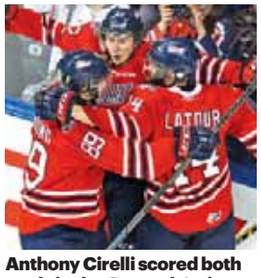
Later, in the second video, Warner thanked supporters. He said a number have reached out in recent days since the latest scandal broke.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jack Warner
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

MEMORIAL CUP

Generals champs with overtime win



Anthony Cirelli scored both goals in the Generals' win on Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

Anthony Cirelli's second goal of the game at 1:28 of overtime lifted the Oshawa Generals to a 2-1 win over the Kelowna Rockets in the Memorial Cup final on Sunday night in Quebec City.

The Generals won the Cup for the first time since 1990 and became the first OHL team to win since the 2010 Windsor Spitfires.

Tomas Soustal scored in the first period for Western Hockey League champion Kelowna and Cirelli tied it in the second.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Henderson to compete at Pan American Games

Brooke Henderson of Smiths Falls, Ont., headlines the four athletes named to Canada's golf team on Sunday for the upcoming Pan American Games.

The 17-year-old former world No. 1 amateur will be joined by four-time LPGA Tour winner Lorie Kane of Charlottetown.

The men's team is made up of Austin Connelly who resides in Irving, Texas, and Garrett Rank of Elmira, Ont.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CYCLING

Contador captures Giro d'Italia title

Alberto Contador clinched his second Giro d'Italia title on Sunday, and immediately turned his attention to fulfilling his aim of becoming the first cyclist since 1998 to win the Italian classic and the Tour de France in the same year.

Contador had all but secured the win after Saturday's 20th stage when he saw his lead cut in half but nevertheless headed into the final day — a mainly processional stage — with more than a two-minute advantage on closest rival Fabio Aru. Contador ended up winning by one minute 53 seconds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOUGH ROAD

The 32-year-old Contador has had to dig deep during a troublesome three weeks in Italy after dislocating his shoulder in an early crash.

IN BRIEF

Manziel loses cool with fan at golf tournament

Troubled Cleveland Browns quarterback Johnny Manziel threw a water bottle at a heckler in an incident that didn't lead to any arrests or charges at the AT&T Byron Nelson golf tournament.

Manziel had been turning away autograph requests from the fan for about two hours Saturday during the third round when an exchange escalated in the pool area of the Four Seasons Resort where the PGA Tour event is held, Irving police spokesman James McLellan said.

The water bottled missed the 18-year-old male, and someone who was with Manziel pushed the fan, leading officers to intervene, McLellan said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Verlander struggles on return from spring injury

Detroit Tigers star Justin Verlander struggled in his first rehabilitation start, giving up three runs in 2-2/3 innings for Triple-A Toledo on Sunday.

The former American League MVP and Cy Young winner is trying to work his way back into the Tigers' rotation from a right triceps injury he sustained in spring training. The Tigers have not announced whether Verlander will continue his rehab or join the major-league team.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shades of '04 in Tampa

NHL

Stamkos and Triplets give Bolts familiar youthful edge

As family members took pictures with the Stanley Cup before the parade through the streets of Tampa, then-Lightning general manager Jay Feaster told veteran defenceman Darryl Sydor he was the 2004 champions' missing ingredient.

Sydor, a mid-season trade pick-up, appreciated the kind words but pointed at 24-year-olds Brad Richards and Vincent Lecavalier and told Feaster: "It's those guys that win a Stanley Cup for you."

Eleven years later, Feaster sees a Lightning team with a more intellectual coach and younger leadership group but one that has many of the same qualities of the group that won the first Cup in franchise history. Now it's 24-year-olds Steven Stamkos, Tyler Johnson and Victor Hedman, 25-year-old Alex Killorn, 23-year-old Ondrej Palat and 21-year-old Nikita Kucherov leading the Lightning into the Cup final against the Chicago Blackhawks.

"Your best players are your young players," Feaster said in a phone interview Sunday.

Goaltender Ben Bishop's numbers aren't as impressive as Nikolai Khabibulin's in 2004, but he boasts two Game 7 shutouts. Johnson could follow Richards as a Conn Smythe Trophy winner if he keeps up his torrid scoring pace, and his "Triplets" line has led Tampa Bay.

Steven Stamkos, right, with ex-Lightning player and member of Tampa Bay's 2004 Stanley Cup-winning team Martin St. Louis. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES

"The stuff that Johnson and Palat and Kucherov have done, not only in the regular season but in the playoffs, is I think very similar to what Brad Richards and Vinny Lecavalier and Marty St. Louis and even Ruslan Fedotenko did, scoring key goals," said Chris Dingman, a member of that 2004 Cup team.

Youth has served the Lightning extremely well these playoffs, as the top five scorers are all 25 or younger. They have only one player who's older than 31, winger Brenden Morrow, and don't look the least bit intimidated by big-game situations.

> **I like the mix. I think there are the same kind of key pieces.**
> Lightning executive Jay Feaster

In 2004, Tampa Bay leaned on Sydor, 40-year-old captain Dave Andreychuk and 34-year-old Tim Taylor for vital lessons. Taylor stood up after a crushing Game 6 loss in the Eastern Conference final and said: "We've got to look the devil in the eye and go for it."

"They knew when to talk, they knew when to calm things down," said Feaster, now the Lightning's executive director of community hockey development. "But it was the younger guys who were the ones who were scoring the goals and leading us in terms of the production."

Dan Boyle, Dave Andreychuk, Vincent Lecavalier and Martin St. Louis formed a formidable nucleus a decade ago in Tampa. BRIAN BAHR/GETTY IMAGES

Stamkos has done both. In his first full season as captain, the Markham, Ont., native made his statement the morning of Game 7 against the New York Rangers when he said none of their dominance in those situations mattered because it didn't happen against the Lightning.

"It doesn't matter if you're 40 or 25," said Dingman, now a Lightning analyst. "If you're a leader, you can be a leader."

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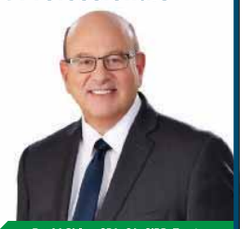
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RECIPE Pork Tenderloin with Mango Avocado Salsa

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This tender meat topped with a sweet fruit salsa makes for a great combination of flavours. You can safely cook pork to a medium doneness and enjoy the moistness of this lean meat. Recipe serves 4.

Ready in
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes

Ingredients
- 1 1/2 lb pork tenderloin (one or two small)
- 3/4 cup finely diced mango
- 1/2 cup finely diced ripe avocado
- 1/4 cup finely diced red bell pepper
- 3 Tbsp finely diced red onion
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro
- 2 tsp olive oil
- 1 tsp minced jalapeno pepper
- 1 tsp lemon juice
- Salt

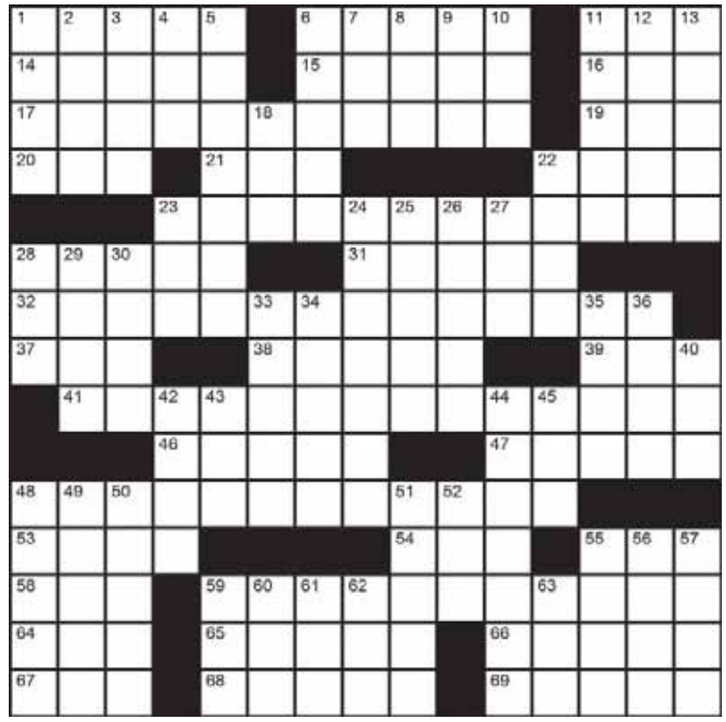
Directions
1. Preheat oven to 400 F. In a skillet or grill pan, sear pork on all sides for about 3 minutes. Place on baking sheet lined with foil and bake tenderloin for about 15 minutes, or until temperature reaches 135 – 140 F for medium doneness.
2. In a bowl, combine remaining ingredients. Slice pork thinly and spoon salsa over top.

Nutrition per serving
- Calories 240
- Carbohydrates 2g
- Fibre 1g
- Protein 36g
- Fat 9g
- Saturated Fat 2g
- Cholesterol 110mg
- Sodium 90mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Alberta city just south of Edmonton
6. Some can be tall
11. First Aid _
14. Sch. subject
15. Nimble
16. Tropical cuckoo
17. June 1st & June 2nd, 2015: The Music of _ _ (Edmonton Symphony Orchestra concert featuring songs by a famous British rock band)
19. "This is tasty!"
20. Bear, in Barcelona
21. U's spelled-out follower
22. Merchandise
23. As per #17-Across... Song that goes "Hey fellas have you heard the news?"
28. Previous
31. Marauds
32. "Stay in the Light" band from Niagara Falls: 2 wds.
37. Posh Spice's hubby ...his initials-sharers
38. _ cologne: 2 mots
39. Monopoly road type, briefly
41. CBSA = Canada _ _ Agency
46. Cosmetician Ms. Lauder
47. Actor Jeremy
48. Gatorade, and others: 2 wds.
53. New Zealand fruit
54. French pronoun
55. Boat's distress
58. Overnight roadside stop
59. Type of house layout: 2 wds.
64. Director Spike
65. Mr. Klein, Premier of Alberta from 1992 to 2006
66. Ms. Garbo
67. Psychedelic† drug
68. "_ Days" by Bruce Springsteen
69. Dishwater's characteristic

DOWN
1. "Mission: Impossible" theme music composer
2. '70s Spanish hit: "_ Tu"
3. "Thank You" songstress
4. Pretzels brand
5. Village in the Lower North Shore region of Quebec
6. Gradually
7. Block' suffix
8. Rapper, _ Kim
9. Yalie
10. Pres. Obama's former title
11. Inuit craft
12. Accustom
13. Kitchen gadget
18. _-sized (Small)
22. "What _ _ to do?"
23. Gardening tool
24. _ leg (Pants part)
25. _-annonce (Movie trailer, in French)
26. Stair part
27. Univ. web address word, sometimes
28. Scholarly deg.
29. Luxe-living magazine, _ Report
30. "Not _ _ many words."
33. "Boy _ World" ('90s TV series)
34. Paddled
35. Restaurant chain, with Bell
36. All square
40. 'Lion' suffix
42. Opera singer Ms. Grist
43. Summer hrs. in Ottawa
44. Newfoundland: L'Anse aux Meadows historic people
45. U.S. tax bureau
48. Talent
49. Hankers
50. Had
51. Fidgety
52. "Yees!" opposite
55. Plant's beginning
56. Chooses
57. Dog training command
59. Assoc.
60. Buddy
61. Jeff Lynne's gr.
62. American airer since '71
63. French vineyard

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
The problem you will be faced with today is the same problem you have faced many times before. Get it right this time and hopefully it won't bother you again.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Life isn't as tough as you seem to think it is. You have everything you need to accomplish your ambitions and find contentment both in your personal life and in your career.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Refuse to worry about a relationship issue. Tomorrow's full moon is sure to resolve the situation, after which you can move on, either alone or together. It's probably not as bad as it seems.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
If there is anything you have to do that requires a clear head it might pay to wait until Thursday or even Friday. Until then it's unlikely you will be thinking straight.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will find something to smile about today — in fact you will wonder how and why you allowed yourself to get so upset over the weekend.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you get the chance to resolve a dispute of some kind you must not let it pass you by. You may have to make an apology you don't really mean but it's better than letting a senseless feud drag on indefinitely.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Even if you try to explain yourself in the simplest of terms you will still encounter people who refuse to believe what you say. Don't waste time because you have more important, and more exciting, things to do.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Try not to make a decision about a money or business matter today. For best results you should wait until the second half of the week. Even then it might be best to do nothing at all.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Discuss your differences with a rival openly and honestly today. The approaching full moon in your sign makes you more emotional than you need to be, so strive to be rational.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Doubts and fears you thought you had conquered will make a reappearance but you must not let them take over your life. Most of what you are worrying about is just in your head.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You are in one of your serious moods at the moment and anyone who tries to play games likely to regret it. But don't go too far or you could turn a friend into an enemy.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will find yourself up against someone who is just too tough for you today. Do you back off or do you go down fighting? Logic may have little to do with the answer.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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Difficulty Level ★★★

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